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ENCLOSURE IN No. 43

From His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the United States
Secretary of State

No. 256.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C., March 21, 1924.

SIR,—I have the honour to refer to the note which you were so good as to address to Mr. Chilton on February 16th last and to inform you, by request of His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, that the question of the diversion of water from the St. Lawrence River watershed into that of the Mississippi continues to cause grave concern to the Government and people of Canada, more especially in view of the provisions of the bill which has been introduced into Congress in regard to this matter. The Dominion Government desire me to express the hope that no action will be taken either to confirm or permit the claim of the Sanitary District of Chicago to continue the diversion of water referred to above, inasmuch as this would adversely affect navigation on the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence river as well as the actual or prospective development of power upon river and inter-lake connecting waters.

The attitude of the Government of Canada in opposition to and in protest against the most injurious effects of this proposed diversion of water has been consistently maintained throughout and has been made known to the United States Government. The Dominion Government feel that it would be most unfortunate if, now that the development of the St. Lawrence Waterway for navigation and power purposes is under consideration, any action should be taken which might adversely affect the possibility of such development, and they trust that these views will meet with the agreement of the United States Government.

In this connection I would draw your particular attention to the contents of Mr. Chilton's note No. 144 of February 13th, the receipt of which you were good enough to acknowledge on the 15th ultimo and to enquire whether you are yet in a position to inform me of the attitude of the United States authorities in this matter. At the same time it would be a matter of convenience both to myself and to the Government of Canada to learn whether the time has yet been fixed for the hearings of the committee, which you foreshadowed in your note of the 18th ultimo, and if so whether Mr. Stewart will be at liberty to attend them.

I have, etc.,

The Honourable
CHARLES E. HUGHES,
Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

ESME HOWARD.

No. 44.

From His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the Governor General
Telegram.
No. 34.

WASHINGTON, March 25, 1924.

Your despatch No. 19.¹ I learn from the Department of State that Committee hearings on Representative Hull's Bill (h.r. 5475) for the creation of a waterway between Chicago and the Gulf of Mexico, etc., and for the diversion of water from Lake Michigan and other purposes, will commence on April 15th. Hearings probably last one week.

Chairman of Committee has no objection to the attendance of Canadian representative during hearings. Official note confirming this information is said to be in course of preparation.

HOWARD.

¹No. 20.

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No. 45.

From His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the Governor General
No. 132.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, April 3, 1924.

My LORD,—I have the honour to transmit to Your Lordship, herewith, copies of the paper mentioned in the subjoined schedule.

I have, etc.,

(For the Ambassador)

His Excellency
The Governor General of Canada.

H. W. BROOKS.

Name and Date	Subject
From Department of State, Washington, April 2, 1924.	Resumption of hearings on April 15, on bills dealing with the diversion of waters from Lake Michigan.

Reference: Washington telegram No. 34 of March 25, 1924.¹

¹No. 44.

ENCLOSURE IN No. 45

From the United States Secretary of State to His Majesty's Ambassador
at Washington

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, April 2, 1924.

EXCELLENCY.—Further reference is made to the note from your Embassy No. 130 of February 9, 1924, in which it was stated that the Government of the Dominion of Canada desired to send Mr. W. J. Stewart, Chief Hydrographer of the Dominion Government to be present in its behalf at hearings of a special committee of the Senate appointed to investigate the problem of a nine-foot channel in the proposed waterway from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, and to the inquiry made in your note No. 256 of March 21, 1924, in regard to the date on which these hearings will be held, and whether Mr. Stewart will be at liberty to be present.

The Committee of the Senate to which reference was made in the Embassy's note of February 9, 1924, has not held hearings during the present session of Congress or yet arranged to hold them.

I am informed by the Chairman of the Committee on Rivers and Harbours of the House of Representatives that this Committee has arranged to resume hearings on April 15, on bills dealing with the diversion of waters from Lake Michigan, the most important one, I understand, being known as the Hull Bill (H.R. 5475). The Committee desires to obtain all the information it can which will be helpful towards a correct determination of the matters which it has under consideration. It will welcome the help of all who have information of value relating to these matters, and will be glad to have Mr. Stewart attend the hearings.

Accept, etc.,

CHARLES E. HUGHES.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
SIR ESME HOWARD, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.V.O.,
Ambassador of Great Britain.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers
Memoranda & Notes

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